

FROM :CHEMISTRY SCP400

FAX NO. :813-974-3203

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Practitioner's Docket No.: 1372.220PRCWOU\$

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Malik et al.

Serial No.: 09/763,419

Filing Date: 07/19/2001

For: CAPILLARY COLUMN AND
METHOD OF MAKING

Examiner: Arlen Soderquist

Art Unit: 1743

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION

37 CFR § 1.131

Dear Sir:

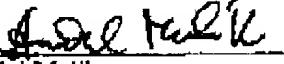
In its action dated January 5, 2004, the Office rejected Applicant's claims based on the following two primary references:

- 1) Wang et al., Analytical Chemistry, Vol 69 : 4566-4576; November 15, 1997
- 2) Hayes et al., Journal of Chromatography B, Vol. 695 : 3-13; July 18, 1997

Applicants herein declare that the above-mentioned references are Applicants' own work which Applicants invented and reduced to practice prior to the publication date of the reference. Sau L. Chong, and James D. Hayes, who are not inventors on this application, are the other authors of the cited references. I, Abdul Malik also declare that Sau L. Chong of the Wang reference, and James D. Hayes of the Hayes reference, were working under the direction of myself, Abdul Malik and Dongxin Wang.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that those statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Abdul Malik

03/15/2004

Date